

SENATE RESOLUTION 156

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Melissa Collins on her selection as the 2022–2023 Tennessee Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Dr. Melissa Collins of the Memphis Shelby County School District who was named the 2022–2023 Tennessee Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a second-grade teacher at John P. Freeman Optional School, Dr. Collins has been an educator for twenty-one years and was competitively selected from nine finalists representing their respective regions of the State during the Tennessee Department of Education's Excellence in Education celebration; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards or accolades, she has received numerous honors during her career, including the Amazon Future Engineer Teacher of the Year, the National University Award, the 2018 Global Teacher Prize Finalist (Top 50), the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching, and the West Tennessee Teacher of the Year, and she was inducted into the National Teacher Hall of Fame in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Collins is an inspiration to the faculty, staff, and students alike of John P. Freeman Optional School, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melissa Collins truly epitomizes the dedicated educator who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Dr. Melissa Collins upon being named the 2022–2023 Tennessee Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.